THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) to (c) With a view to promote tourism, it has been decided that tourists visas may be made good for multiple entries instead of the existing three entries. Children of foreign nationals of Indian origin below 12 years have been exempted from visa requirement and are legible for grant of non-extendable landing permit for 90 days. These permits are issued by Immigration authorities and are not valid for admission into educational institutions.

Development of Delhi and other Metropolitan Cities

310. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money sanctioned for the development of Delhi during the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans respectively; and

(b) the amount sanctioned for the development of other metropolitan cities for the above periods, city-wise separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b) Outlays for Metropolitan cities are not fixed separately. Funds for development of these cities flow from various heads of development of Central as well as respective States/ UT Plans. It is therefore, not possible to segregate the amount provided for development of these cities during the Sixth Plan and the Seventh Plan.

Introduction of Winter Sports to promote Tourism

311. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce winter sports to promote tourism in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to provide appropriate facilities for winter sports in the country, the Government of India has established the Indian Institute of Skiing & Mountaineering at Gulmarg. This Institute organises snow skiing courses in Gulmarg (J&K), Narkanda (H.P.) and Auli (U.P.) in winter months and water skiing courses at different places in summer months.

Regional Passport Office in Gujarat

312. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that passports are not being issued in time even by the Regional passport office in Gujarat particularly in Ahmedabad through applications are made two to three months in advance; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) Yes Sir, there has been some dislocation of rate because of the disturbed situation in that State.

(b) Under the Passport Act, 1967 Passport Issuing Authority has to make enquiries regarding eligibility of the applicant for a passport. These enquiries are in the interest of security of the nation and therefore, unavoidable. The Government of India, therefore issued instructions in December, 1984 not to issue passport in general cases unless and until identity verification reports from the District police authorities and security verification reports from State CID authorities were obtained. The delay involved, therefore is inevita-